

## GERMANS MASS FOR NEW VERDUN DRIVE

Movement of Troops to Front Is Met by a Heavy Artillery Fire.

### SORTIE NEAR DOUVAUMONT

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

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The following official communiqué was issued by the French War Office to-day:

In the Argonne our batteries were active in the region of St. Hubert, where German works were damaged, as well as in the region of Douvaumont, where our troops moved toward the front in the region of Montfaucourt and Douvaumont.

East of the Meuse there was a bombardment of Douvaumont by the artillery of both sides in the region of Le Mort Homme.

East of the Meuse, there was a bombardment of our second line and there were some intense but brief artillery duels.

In the Woëvre, to the west of Pont-a-Mousson, we dispersed convoys on the road from Essey to Nonsard.

There is no important event to report on the rest of the front.

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### KAISER ATTENDS MASS.

Archbishop of Cologne Gives \$50,000 Collected for Wounded.

BERLIN, via London, April 14.—Emperor William was present yesterday at a high mass at the German main army headquarters at which Cardinal von Hartmann, Archbishop of Cologne, officiated. The Cardinal offered prayers for the victory of Germany and the return of missing German soldiers. He presented the Kaiser with \$50,000 marks (\$75,000) which had been collected by Prussian Catholics to aid wounded soldiers.

The Cardinal after high mass said: "If the Lord our God requires further heavy sacrifices from us, I, in this moment, make myself the interpreter of the Catholic soldiers of the army and put into the hands of your Imperial and Royal Majesty the solemn vow of unflinching loyalty."

### CHECK FRENCH ATTACKS

Germans Halt Advances on West Bank of Meuse.

BERLIN, via London, April 14.—German artillery stopped French attacks at night on the west bank of the Meuse last night as the forces selected for the assaults were leaving their trenches.

The official report issued by the German War Office to-day says: Apart from occasional lively artillery duels in the region of the Meuse, there is nothing to report.

Attempts made by the enemy to attack on the left bank of the Meuse were arrested by our artillery fire as the attacking parties left their trenches.

### BRITISH RAID TRENCHES.

Kill Germans Near Lens—Mine Fighting at Vermelles.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, April 14.—The following report from British headquarters in France was issued to-day by the official press bureau: Exploding mines east of Vermelles yesterday evening, we did considerable damage to the enemy's position and drew a heavy, but ineffective artillery reply.

Early this morning our artillery carried out a successful bombardment of the neighborhood of Souchez.

During the night a small party raided the German front line trenches northwest of Lens and killed some of the occupants before withdrawing on the completion of their mission.

### GREAT STORES BEHIND VERDUN

Edward R. Stettinius Tells About Confidence of Allies.

Edward R. Stettinius of the export department of J. P. Morgan & Co., who returned from Europe yesterday on the American liner St. Paul, said he had not seen accumulating pockets of German war supplies for the Allies, but just taking a rest from high pressure labor. Munition plants in England and France, he said, were quite able now to supply the western front with shells. He was within ten miles of the Verdun firing line and was impressed with the gigantic supplies of men and munitions that the French have in the rear. It would make very little difference, he said, whether or not the Germans took Verdun.

In France and England there was a feeling of confidence that might be called sublime in the ultimate victory of the Allies. There would be no trouble about financing the Allies during or after the war. Much uncovered wealth had been reached in the bottom of their stockings and would produce more money when it was needed.

## TURKS DRIVEN BACK BY RELIEF FORCE IN TIGRIS

Compelled to Retreat One and a Half to Three Miles—British Deny Reported Slaughter of 3,000 in Recent Battle.

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## AUSTRIAN LINES IN GALICIA RALL BACK

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## WILSON COMPLETES NOTE TO BERLIN; RUPTURE SEEN

Continued from First Page.

has ended. A break in diplomatic relations would occur immediately.

A significant feature of Germany's note, which has not escaped the attention of President Wilson or Secretary Lansing, is the fact that reported German submarine commanders themselves seem to show that no care is being taken by them to guarantee against attacks which might involve the United States and Germany.

The submarine commander who torpedoed the Sussex or "unknown steamer," as he calls it, admits in his report that he did not know the ship was a liner, and he was attacking. He thought it was a mine layer, but officials here point out that it might have been a ship with several hundred civilians on board.

President Wilson can see no evidence in the Sussex case that his previous representations to Germany were ignored. The slightest difference in the practices of the submarine commanders. Apparently, it is said, the pledges which Germany has given to the United States regarding the sinking of ships without warning have not been communicated to the submarine commanders, and in this connection the Tubantia case is cited as an example.

The Dutch Shipping Council has now reported that this ship was sunk by a torpedo. She was a liner, had Americans on board, was fired on without warning, and, therefore, officials insist, was within the scope of the pledges which Germany has made to the United States.

It is because Germany's good faith in its pledge to the United States is under suspicion that the Secretary of State is giving such close attention to all submarine attacks. He considers it no fault of Germany's that more American ships are being sunk than in the past.

As an alleged number of steamers appear to be torpedoed daily without warning. The latest reported instance is the attack on the British steamer *Thetis*, which had one American on board.

However, President Wilson is collecting further evidence regarding German submarine attacks on merchant ships carrying Americans. He considers that the information he has before him is sufficient to warrant a demand on Germany to modify her submarine operations.

**BERLIN PRESS VIEWS.**  
Count von Reventlow Writes of "Drum Fire of Notes."

BERLIN, via Amsterdam, April 15 (Saturday).—"Drum fire of notes on Berlin" is the new phrase coined by Count von Reventlow in the *Tagesspiegel* to describe the new controversy in Washington's inquiries about the attack on the Sussex and the sinking of four merchantmen.

Reventlow, who is a member of the Reichstag, says that the new controversy is the "muzzle" of the censorship. He also complains that the German Government has not made public the four American notes which it has received as to give the public a complete picture of the questions at issue.

The majority of the newspapers while reflecting the general opinion, express gratification over the German reply, hailing it as a step toward an understanding with the American Government. The German note is characterized as "simple," "honest," "unbiased" and "friendly" by the various organs.

Reventlow says: "We must try to bear the intervening days with restraint." He says that the German reply is the first in which the German reply is received by Washington. Whenever enemy merchantmen are sunk in the North Atlantic, the German Government is accused of a "drum fire of notes" on Berlin promising success.

The *Vossische Zeitung* emphasizes the German effort to refer the questions at issue to The Hague and asserts that many "clear away further developments with a clean conscience, calmness and confidence."

Cap. Forstus in the *Tagesspiegel* justifies the sinking of the *Berwindale*, Englishman and Eagle Point on the ground that the steamers tried to escape and points out that the submarine was in the North Atlantic for a long time before torpedoing the vessels.

As to the Sussex and the Manchester, Engineer, he declares that "only on the basis of more exact data from the side of the accusers can it be ascertained if one of our submarines was involved." He points to the difficulties of submarine warfare and says that the sinking of the Sussex is due to an undrawn draft, which has been exhausted.

"It almost takes a superman to make a submarine sink," he says, "and in the present circumstances to carry out a torpedoing that is completely above reproach."

The information was sent privately to the British ship and made public by the Ministry of Marine because it is understood that the American Government does not wish the details revealed at present and also to afford Germany an opportunity to answer the French statement that even the name of the commander of the submarine is known.

**URGES SPAIN TO ACTION.**  
Lawyer Wants Neutrals to Move Against Germany.

MADRID, April 14.—The President of the Council of Ministers